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Rural District Council

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
Charles A. Mason, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1942

Together with the Summary of work
of the Sanitary Inspectors.

COCKERMOUTH :
"TIMES" PRINTING WORKS,

1943

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Cockermouth Rural District Council.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Cockermouth Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1942, which has been drawn up in accordance with Circular 1961 of the Ministry of Health, dated 16th February, 1940, and the Registrar General's Memorandum SD/54 received July, 1943.

During the year under review the Council and their officials assisted by the splendid body of Voluntary Workers throughout the district have continued to carry out the many and varied war time responsibilities with commendable loyalty and devotion.

My thanks are due to those Observers of Rainfall in the district, shown on page 5, for their courtesy in supplying their records.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant.

CHARLES A. MASON,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres), 161,312 (inclusive of area covered by water).

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid-1942,
(see Page 6) 19,260.

Number of inhabited houses (end 1942) according to Rate
Book, 5,047.

Rateable Value £87,416

Sum represented by Penny Rate :—Gross, £364

Estimated produce of a Penny Rate, £346

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live	Legitimate	285	156	129	Birth Rate (R.G.)
Births	Illegitimate	20	13	7	15.8
Still Births	...	8	5	3	Rate per 1,000
					Total (live and still) births 25.5.

		Total	M.	F.	
Deaths	...	209	119	90	Crude Death Rate
(R.G.) 10.8 per 1,000 of estimated resident population.					

Maternal Mortality :—

Deaths from puerperal causes (childbirth):—

		Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis	...	0	Nil
Other Maternal Causes		1	3.19
Total	...	1	3.19

Infantile Mortality :—

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age 16

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births (approximately) 52

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 56

Illegitimate „ Illegitimate „ Nil

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 1

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) 0

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) 0

Deaths from Cancer 37

Table showing RAINFALL in inches, in 1942, compiled from observers in various parts of the district.

Observation Station ...	Dean School	At Crosthwaite Keswick, about 440 yards from the Cockermouth Rural District boundary	Spring Bank, Braithwaite	Higham	Dale Head Hall, Thirlmere
Observer ...	H. Irwin, Esq.	T. Wilson, Esq.	J. Smith Hill, Esq.	Miss Fisher.	J. P. Hallam Esq., Engineer to Manchester Corporation Water Works
Diameter of Rain Gauge Funnel	5 inches	5 in.	8 in.	5 in.	5 in.
Height of gauge above ground	11 in.	1 ft.	1 ft.	9 in.	1 ft.
Height of gauge above sea level	365 ft.	254 ft.	280 ft.	500 ft.	620 ft.
1942.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.	ins.
January	6'19	4'67	5'44	4'64	6'68
February	2'01	2'36	2'71	1'82	2'98
March	2'78	3'02	3'84	1'33	7'40
April	2'42	3'88	4'17	1'39	6'99
May	3'27	4'81	5'01	1'99	8'13
June	'95	1'20	1'58	'90	1'35
July	3'74	3'47	5'46	3'40	5'75
August	5'81	6'40	6'66	3'31	10'42
September	6'25	8'50	9'94	4'96	9'40
October	4'68	7'44	8'40	5'01	11'29
November	1'57	1'70	2'14	1'43	2'68
December	7'19	10'12	11'79	5'48	16'00
Totals	46'86	57'57	67'14	35'66	89'07
Average prev. 5 yrs 1937-41 (incl)	43'88	54'74	62'85	42'58	84'11 (Av. 66 yrs. 81'46)

Cockermouth Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, for the year 1942.

The area of the district in statute acres is 161,312 (approximately 4,700 of which are covered by inland water).

POPULATION.

For 1942 the figure given for the resident population of the district by the Registrar General is 19,260, on which the birth and death rates and the incidence of notifiable diseases are based.

N.B.—Figures relating to non-civilians are excluded.
(The figure for 1941 was 19,990).

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

In the Cockermouth Rural District, which is included in the Mid-Cumberland Guardians' Area, the number of persons in receipt of out-door relief was 379, giving a proportion of (approximately) 1 in 51 of the population, as compared with 1 in 36 for 1941.

Twenty-one persons were admitted to Public Assistance Hospital from this district during the year, giving a proportion of approximately 1 in 917 of the population. (1941—22 persons, and 1 in 909 of population).

The numbers for 1942 are detailed as follows:—

Registration Sub-district	Out-door Relief		Indoor
	Ordinary	Unemployed	
Cockermouth ...	33	40	4
Maryport ...	59	91	1
Workington ...	28	42	11
Keswick ...	7	—	1
Aspatria ...	39	40	4
	166	213	21

I am indebted to Mr. J. T. Gill, Clerk to the Guardians Committee, for the above figures.

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS.

Live Births.—The total number of live births registered in and belonging to the district in 1942 was 305 (169 males and 136 females). Of these 20 (13 males and 7 females) were illegitimate. The net live birth rate is accordingly 15.8 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 14.2 for the previous year:—

Comparisons may be given as follows:—

Birth Rates, 1942—Cumberland	16.8
Rural District of Cumberland	17.0
Urban Districts of Cumberland	16.5
England and Wales	15.8
Cockermouth Rural District	15.8

The percentage of illegitimate live births is approximately 6.5 as compared with 5.9 in 1941.

Still Births.—8 still births (7 legitimate and 1 illegitimate) were also registered, giving a still birth rate of 0.41 per 1000 of the population as compared with 0.80 for 1941. (The rate for all England and Wales was 0.54).

The still birth rate per 1000 total live and still births was 25.5 as compared with 53.1 for 1941.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths (civilian, only) registered as belonging to the district was 209 (119 males and 90 females), i.e., after correcting for non-residents dying within the district and for those persons whose usual residence was within the district dying outside the district. This gives a crude death rate of 10.8 per 1000 of the population as compared with 10.4 for previous year.

The adjustment factor, or Areal Comparability Factor, has not been provided by the Registrar General for 1942, so the adjusted death rate cannot be given.

Comparisons of crude death rates are shewn below:—

	Crude
Death Rates, 1942—Cumberland	12.2
Rural Districts of Cumberland	11.8
Urban Districts of Cumberland	12.7
England and Wales	11.6
Cockermouth Rural District	10.8
(For causes of death during the year see table on page 8.)	

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 16 deaths of infants under one year of age, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of approximately 52 per 1000 births as compared with 34 for the preceding year.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1942

Causes of Death.			Males	Females
All Causes			119	90
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever		0	0
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever		0	0
3.	Scarlet Fever		0	0
4.	Whooping-cough		0	0
5.	Diphtheria		0	0
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System		3	0
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis		2	1
8.	Syphilitic diseases		1	0
9.	Influenza		3	3
10.	Measles		0	1
11.	Ac: Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis		0	0
12.	Ac: inf: encephalitis		0	0
13.	Cancer of b: cav: and oesoph: (M.) Uterus (F.)		0	0
14.	„ stomach and duodenum		5	4
15.	„ breast		0	5
16.	„ all other sites		15	8
17.	Diabetes		0	2
18.	Intra-cran. vasc: lesions		11	11
19.	Heart Dis:		25	24
20.	Other Dis: of circulatory system		3	1
21.	Bronchitis		3	2
22.	Pneumonia (all forms)		5	4
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases		0	0
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum		1	1
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years		0	0
26.	Appendicitis		0	1
27.	Other Digestive Diseases		2	1
28.	Nephritis		3	1
29.	Puerperal and post-abortion: sepsis		0	0
30.	Other Maternal Causes		0	1
31.	Premature Birth		3	2
32.	Congen: malform: birth inj: infant dis.		3	1
33.	Suicide		1	0
34.	Road Traffic acc:		4	1
35.	Other violent causes		4	2
36.	All other causes		22	13

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—Total ...

9

7

Legitimate ...

9

7

Illegitimate ...

—

—

For
I.M. etc.For
B. Rate

LIVE BIRTHS }

Total ...

M

F

169

136

Legitimate ...

156

129

Illegitimate ...

13

7

STILL BIRTHS }

Total ...

5

3

Legitimate ...

4

3

Illegitimate ...

1

—

POPULATION (for Births and Deaths), 1942—R.G.—(see p. 6)

(a) for B.R.

(b) for D.R.'s and incidence of notifiable diseases

19,260

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1942.

Net Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages
under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year
Bronchitis									1	1
Broncho-pneumonia.						2		1		3
Atelectasis	1				1					1
Premature Birth.	4	1	1		6					6
Convulsions						1				1
Cerebral Birth Injury (difficult labour)	1				1					1
Icterus Neonatorum	1				1					1
Spinal Bifida	1				1					1
Tubercular Meningitis								1		1
All Causes (certified)	8	1	1		10	3	1		3	16 RG

Three out of the eight deaths in the first column above died within 24 hours.

Comparisons may be given as follows:—

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1942—

Cumberland	...	57
Rural Districts of Cumberland	...	55
Urban Districts of Cumberland	...	60
England and Wales	...	49
Cockermouth Rural District	...	52

No death occurred among illegitimate infants so that the Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate was nil per 1000 illegitimate births, as compared with the Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate of approximately 56 per 1000 legitimate births. These rates were respectively 59 and 33 for the previous year.

(For Infant Mortality see page 9).

SENILE DEATH RATE.

122 persons (70 males and 52 females) had attained the age of 65 years or upwards. This number represents a Senile death rate of 58.3 per cent. of the total deaths.

18 (10m 8f)	persons	died between the ages of	65 and 70 years
33 (23m 10f)	"	"	70 and 75 years
29 (17m 12f)	"	"	75 and 80 years
32 (15m 17f)	"	"	80 and 85 years
10 (5m 5f)	"	"	85 and 90 years

INQUESTS, UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND VIOLENCE.

In respect of deaths belonging to the district during the year there were 15 inquests (7 of which were held outside the district). No Coroner's Certificates were received of cases where postmortem examination had been made but no inquest held.

Nine deaths were uncertified (1941—6).

Violence.—The death rate due to Violence (all forms) was 0.62 per 1000 of the population in the Cockermouth Rural District. Below will be seen the number of deaths from Suicide, Road Traffic Accidents, Other Violence and the Total Violence deaths, together with the percentages of the total deaths from all causes, and the death rates of each per 1000 of the population:—

	Suicide		Road Traffic Accidents		Other Violence excl'g Road Traffic Acc.		Total Violence	
	1942	1941	1942	1941	1942	1941	1942	1941
Deaths	1	nil	5	5	6	5	12	10
% of all causes	4.78	nil	2.39	2.41	2.87	2.41	5.74	4.83
D R. pr 1000 population	0.51	nil	.259	.25	.31	.25	.62	.50

The deaths from Violence in 1942 include 1 from occupational accident, 3 drowning, 5 road accidents, 1 goring by bull, 1 suicide (shooting) and 1 other conditions.

CANCER.

Cancer proved fatal in 37 cases, as follows:—

System	Primary Organ	Males	Females
Alimentary	Oesophagus	...	2
	Stomach	...	3
	Bowel	6	2
	Rectum	3	
Glandular	Breast	...	5
	Prostate	1	
	Pancreas	1	2
	Ovaries	...	1
Respiratory	Larynx and Trachea	...	1
	Bronchus	1	
Reproductive	Vulva	...	1
Other	Neck	1	
	Ear and Face	1	

7	of the deaths (4m 3f)	occurred among persons between	40 and 50 years of age
0	"	(5m 1f)	" " 50 and 60 "
9	"	(3m 6f)	" " 60 and 70 "
11	"	(8m 3f)	" " 70 and 80 "
4	"	(1 f)	" " 80 and 90 "

The 37 deaths correspond to a death rate of 1.9 per 1000 of the population as compared with 28 deaths and a death rate of 1.4 in 1941. Approximately out of every 5 deaths of persons in this district 1 was due to cancer.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Vide also page 23

There were 6 deaths due to Tuberculosis.

	Males	Females	Total
Respiratory System	3	0	3
Other Forms	1	2	3
All cases	4	2	6

Four of the deaths (including the three pulmonary) were of previously notified cases in this district.

The total gives a tuberculosis (all forms) death rate of .31 per 1000 of the population, as compared with .45 for 1941.

The "Consumption" (i.e. Pulmonary Tuberculosis) Death Rate was .15 per 1000 of the population, as compared with last year's figure of .35.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

1. Part-time Medical Officer of Health.
2. Two full-time Sanitary Inspectors:—
 - (i.) Senior S.I.—Mr. George Nelson, who holds the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and also a special Certificate of the London City Guilds for Sanitation and Plumbing.
 - (ii) Additional S.I.—Mr. Edgar Dixon, who holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and the Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board, and a Building Construction Certificate of the Northern Counties Technical Examination Council.

3. Mr. Denys Hinde, clerk and assistant, is serving in H.M. Forces and a temporary female clerk is employed.

The work of the Council's Engineering Staff (Sanitary and Water) under Mr. A. E. Simpson, A.M.I.C.E., is to some extent connected with this department.

LABORATORY WORK.

The following table shows the amount of work done in connection with investigations of certain cases of illness during the year, 1942:—

Material	Test applied for—	Result	
		Pos.	Neg.
Throat or Nose swabs	Diphtheria	0	5
Throat or Nose swabs	Haemolytic Streptococci	1	2
Sputum	Tuberculosis	2	14
Blood	Typhoid & para-typhoid	2	1
Eye smear	Gonococci	0	1

Other particulars under Provision of Health services remain as detailed in my 1930 and subsequent reports.

.....

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

WATER SUPPLY.

Generally speaking, with few exceptions, this district is well covered with public and private water mains.

Crummock Scheme.—Shortage and discolouration continued to be experienced at times (see previous reports) and some complaints were received.

Extensions of Water Mains during the year :—

At Seaton.—To the North Eastern Housing Association Site.—
246 lin. yds. of 3in. "Everite" pipes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The system of Drainage and Sewerage throughout the district remain as detailed in my 1925 and subsequent reports.

Extensions of Main Sewers.—The following extension was carried out during 1942 :—

At Clifton.—North Eastern Housing Association site to
Sewage Disposal Works—153 lin. yds. of 9in. sewer.

SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS.

In the villages where there are public sewers the drainage of 21 houses has been connected and 8 privies have been converted to the Water-Carriage system during the year.

Wartime building restrictions and lack of skilled labour (especially the latter) have prevented any further marked progress in the provision of modern sanitary conveniences in those villages, where public sewers and outfall works were provided just prior to the war. At the same time every effort is being made respecting the most urgent cases but the lack of skilled labour is the chief obstacle. In the meantime bad sanitary conditions remain a danger to health while the cleansing of privies and ashpits add to the difficulty and cost of transport and labour.

SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

The removal of ashes and house refuse and the cleansing of privy middens are contracted for by the Council in the parishes shown in the table below, in which is given the number of houses involved and the contractual cost (including provision and upkeep of tips, wheeling out, etc., and relating to the financial year ending 31st March, 1943).

Owing to war time costs and shortage of labour and transport, there have been many difficulties in connection with removal and disposal of house refuse. However, every possible effort has been made to meet these war time difficulties and although some irregularity in times of collection has been unavoidable, this valuable and essential service has been retained to the benefit of public health in the district.

From the table it will be observed the total number of houses covered by these contracts is approximately 3,890, and the total cost for the year £1,663 8s 4d. (Average cost per house was approximately 8s 7d per annum or about 2d per week).

Parish (or part)	Approx. No. of Houses.	Total Cost
		£ s d
Allerby & Oughterside	170	50 5 4
Above Derwent	316	252 4 1
Borrowdale	124	92 3 4
Brigham (and Broughton Cross)	197	53 5 4
Broughton	332	62 10 6
Broughton Moor	195	46 3 7
Blinderake	54	31 17 3
Crosscanonby	216	51 4 2
Camerton	54	25 2 3
Dearham	493	220 1 8
Eaglesfield	51	34 13 1
Embleton	47	33 11 0
Gilcrux	80	55 6 6
Greysouthen	131	63 4 2
Great Clifton	284	91 5 0
Little Clifton and Bridgefoot	107	37 9 2
Lorton	89	48 17 2
Papcastle	86	59 8 4
Plumbland	118	63 4 11
Seaton	584	145 6 10
Setmurthy	21	8 7 9
Underskiddaw	91	72 10 0
Winscales (Furnace Row)	35	47 0 6
Wythop	16	8 7 9
Threapland	14	9 18 8
	3889	£1663 8 4

A system of house refuse removal by private contract is still arranged by householders in Bassenthwaite Village.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The inclusive summary of work done by the two Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. George Nelson and Mr. Edgar Dixon, in accordance with Article 19 of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926, will be found at the end of this report (commencing on page 27). The amount of routine work carried out continues to be large and, of course, extra duties and responsibilities in connection with the war remain as before.

I again record my appreciation of the friendly co-operation of the Council's staff as a whole and, in particular, that of the two Sanitary Inspectors, and I am also again indebted to Mr. Nelson, Chief Sanitary Inspector, for his invaluable assistance in compiling my annual report. (Mr. Nelson is still the Council's Chief Billeting Officer).

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

There were 36 shops on the register and 57 inspections made.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The following table shows the position in this district at the end of 1942 :—

Premises.	Number	Inspec- tions.	Defects Found	Written Notices.	Defects Remedied	Prose- cutions
Factories with mechanical power	19	32	0	0	0	—
Factories without do	48	51	1	1	1	—
Other Premises under Act						
Totals	67	83	1	1	1	—

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Work in connection with the above Act has been carried out throughout the year by the Public Health Department in co-operation with the County Council, as usual. Refuse tips and sewerage works under the Council's control have been periodically dosed with suitable poison, while in addition advice has been given and poison supplied to owners of private premises where the vermin existed. Poison is provided by the County Council free of charge and is distributed by the Health Department of the (Rural) Council.

Housing.

PLANS PASSED —

- (a) Enlargements or renovations of dwellinghouses 5.
- (b) Other buildings (including 3 dairy cowsheds) 10.

91 new houses were completed in this district during the year :

- (a) 72 completed by the North-Eastern Housing Association (49 at Seaton, 10 at Broughton Moor, and 13 at Dearham).
- (b) 19 by private enterprise.

The 91 new houses completed during the year is a welcome contribution but as practically all of these were erected for a special purpose outside the control of this Council they have done little to relieve the housing shortage in the district. There is a definite need for more and better houses to deal with Slum Clearance, Overcrowding and cases of more than one family in a house. These matters have been sympathetically considered from time to time by the Council who have on several occasions expressed a desire to proceed with their housing programme (which was interrupted by the war) as soon as the war time restrictions and circumstances permit.

Housing Appendix.

in accordance with Circular 1961 Ministry of Health, 16th Feb., 1940

STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts	63
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	138
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1923	0
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	2
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	61

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... 19

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	9

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	44	
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—		
(a) By owners	15	
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0	
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0	
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0	
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—		
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0	
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0	
4. Housing Act, 1936, Part iv.,—Overcrowding:—		
(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year ...	64	
(ii.) Number of families dwelling therein ...	74	
(iii.) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	464	
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	6	
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	7	
(ii.) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	38	
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ...	nil	
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowded conditions—		

In regard to the 7 cases (4, (c) above) of overcrowding relieved during the year:—1 was rehoused in a Council house, and 6 found other accommodation privately.

Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are 602 registered dairy premises and of this number the occupiers may be classified as follows: 407 producers and wholesalers of milk, 79 producers and retailers, 6 retail purveyors and 110 producers and butter-makers.

1306 inspections were carried out.

15 registered dairy premises were improved under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, these include 3 new dairy cowsheds. In addition, 32 separate milk cooler houses were provided and this welcome progress has been achieved in spite of war-time building difficulties. A separate cooler house is an essential factor in clean milk production and there are still a number of farms lacking in this respect.

In this district 45 producers held licences for the production of milk under "Special Designations" as follows:—

10 Tuberculin Tested. 35 Accredited.

The Milk Marketing Board, the Express Dairy Co., and the Nestle and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co. continue to collect a considerable quantity of milk daily from this district and more butter-makers are changing over to this method of disposal of their milk.

This Council has continued to co-operate with the County Council in the scheme of the latter for general milk-sampling, including Designated, School, and Ungraded Milk.

The total number of samples taken in this district by the Council's Sanitary officers were 223, of which 77 (or 34.5 per cent) were unsatisfactory from a cleanliness standpoint—vide table below.

Result of the Bacteriological examinations of Milk Samples, 1942:—

Designation.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Totals.
T.T.	17	13	30
Accredited	101	39	140
Ungraded	28	25	53
	—	—	—
Totals	146	77	223

NOTE.—In the above table are included 51 School Milk samples, 15 of which come in the unsatisfactory group.

Tubercle bacilli were reported (in March) in one sample of milk produced in this area. Upon investigation a cow with Tubercular udder was found and straightway slaughtered.

Mr. John Cameron, Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, has kindly supplied me with the following figures relating to work done under the Authority:—

Particulars of Animals Slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order of 1925, from premises registered in the Cokermouth Rural District, during the year 1942

Total number of Animals Slaughtered	...	...	18
Cows in Milk	...	...	16
Other Cows or Heifers	...	...	2
Other Bovine Animals	...	...	0
Types of Disease Found at post-mortem:—			
Tuberculosis of Udder	...	...	3
Tuberculosis with Emaciation	...	...	1
Tuberculosis with Chronic Cough and showing definite Clinical signs	...	...	14

The co-operation of, and joint inspections with, the veterinary Staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries continued harmonious and helpful in matters relating to dairy work and milk production.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Since January, 1940, all slaughtering in private slaughter houses was suspended by the Ministry of Food as a war-time measure and all slaughtering is being carried on in regional slaughter-houses.

Private slaughter-houses in the district have therefore only been used as meat stores and for making-up purposes, the butchers receiving their supplies of meat from Maryport and Workington abattoirs.

By arrangement with the Maryport Urban District Council regular assistance continues to be rendered in the work of meat inspection at the Maryport Abattoir by the appropriate officials of this (C.R.D.) Council.

In addition 208 inspections have been made of meat stores in the district.

.....

Bakehouses.—There remain 13 registered bakehouses in the district, 6 of which are domestic. No serious defects were found during the year.

.....

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.—The total number of Infectious Diseases notified during 1942 in the Coker-mouth Rural District, including Pulmonary and other forms of Tuberculosis, was 256. Excluding Measles and Whooping Cough (*vide post*) the number=49. (The figure for 1941 was 44).

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1942.

Disease		Total cases notified	Cases notified 1942 admitted to hospital	Deaths of notified cases
Small-pox	...	0	0	0
Diphtheria	... ..	2	2	0
Scarlet Fever	... ..	16	13	0
Enteric Fever (including nil Para-Typhoid)		3	3	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	1	0	0
Pneumonia (all forms)		10	1	2
Erysipelas	...	4	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		1	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis		2	2	0
Ac. Poliomyelitis		0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica		0	0	0
Measles		194	0	0
Whooping Cough		13	0	
Tuberculosis :—				
Pulmonary	{ Males	6	4 (San.)	1
	{ Females	4	2 "	0
Non-Pulmonary	{ Males	2	2 (Hosp)	0
	{ Females	2	0	0

Table showing monthly incidence of notifiable diseases, 1942

[illegible]

From notifications received it is deduced that 1 in every 393 persons in this district contracted a disease notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act (Chickenpox, Measles and Whooping Cough excluded) and Tuberculosis Regulations. (In 1941 the figures were 1 in 454).

(Vide Post re Measles and Whooping Cough)

There were only 2 cases of Diphtheria (see Distribution Table Page 26). Both were removed to Hospital and recovered. One of them had been inoculated against the disease in the previous three months; it was a very mild case and it was considered probable that full immunity had not had time to become established.

The case rate of Diphtheria per 1000 of the population was therefore .10 as compared with .20 for 1941. (The corresponding rate for all England and Wales was 1.05).

The Diphtheria death rate per 1000 of the population was nil as compared with .2 for 1941. The rate (1942) for England and Wales was .05.

Throughout the country the campaign of immunisation against Diphtheria, which had been initiated by the Minister of Health was continued. In this district by the end of the year it was estimated that approximately 53 per cent. of children under 15 years of age received the two immunising doses of A.P.T. (Alum praeppitated toxoid) as sponsored by the Minister of Health.

(N.B.—Infants under 1 year of age are not inoculated).

In splitting up the children immunised under 15 into two age groups the figures work out as follows:—Under 5 years 27.0 per cent. and 5 to 15 years 65.7 per cent.

Most of the work was again carried out personally by me at the local schools and the Cockermouth School Clinic, but as before I am grateful for the help of Dr. R. J. Thompson, of the then County Health Staff, the co-operation of local Medical Practitioners, Head Teachers, the various District Nurses, and particularly the County Health Visitor, Miss Lawson.

16 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified (1941—7)—vide distribution table page 25—and were mainly mild in type. 13 were removed to Hospital. No death occurred, so that the death rate from Scarlet Fever was again nil.

The case rate of Scarlet Fever per 1000 of the population was therefore, .83 as compared with .35 for 1941. (The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 2.19, and death rate .00).

A small crop of 3 Typhoid cases occurred in January—2 in Seaton and 1 in Camerton parish. There was a definite connection between each but the origin of infection in the first case was untraced. Each was removed to Hospital with ensuing recovery.

There was no Para-typhoid notification. The case rate per 1000 of the population was therefore .15 and death rate nil for the former. (For England and Wales the Typhoid and Para-typhoid case rates were each .01, whilst the combined death rate of these two fevers was 0.00).

Ten cases of Pneumonia were notified, 2 of which died. The registered deaths from this disease (all forms) numbered 9.

Two sporadic cases of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis were notified, 1 in Seaton in January, and 1 in Broughton Moor in July. Both were removed to Hospital and recovered.

Notification was received of 1 case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum in April, recovery ensuing in due course.

Encephalitis Lethargica and Acute Poliomyelitis.—No notifications.

One notification of Puerperal Pyrexia was received. (N.B.—This term includes Puerperal Fever).

The case rate for Puerperal Pyrexia is better expressed in relation to the number of births registered rather than to the population. When calculated on this basis the rate was 3.19 per 1000 total births (i.e. live and still births), as compared with nil in 1941. The corresponding rate for all England and Wales was 12.61.

There was one maternal death, so that the Maternal Mortality (all causes) rate was therefore 3.19 per 1000 total (live and still births as compared with nil in 1941. The rate (1942) for England and Wales was 2.01 (all causes).

Tuberculosis.—Under the Tuberculosis Regulations 10 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (6 males and 4 females) and 4 of Other Forms of Tuberculosis (2 males and 2 females) were notified. Of those notified during the year six pulmonary cases (4 males and 2 females) were admitted to Sanatorium, and 2 non-pulmonary (males) received hospital treatment, whilst 2 died (1 male pulmonary and 1 female non-pulmonary). Among previously notified and inward transfer cases (and including re-admittances) 5 cases (4 males and 1 female, pulmonary) were admitted to Sanatorium.

A statement regarding the total deaths from Tuberculosis will be found on page 11

The following table gives the number of New Cases and Mortality (all cases):—

1942	Age	New Cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	Under 1 year	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
	1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	10—15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15—20	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
	20—25	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
	25—35	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—
	35—45	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	45—55	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	65—and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
	Totals	6	4	2	2	3	0	1	2

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1942 was as follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary ..	26	19	45
Non-pulmonary ..	20	19	39
	—	—	—
All Cases	46	38	84

Non-Notifiable Acute Infections Disease.—Influenza was prevalent during early Spring and the late Winter months, and six deaths were attributed to this disease—equivalent to an influenza death rate of .31 per 1000 of the population, as compared with .10 (1 death) for 1941. The rate for England and Wales (1942) was 0.09.

The deaths were distributed as follows:—2 Greysouthen (Mar.), 2 Seaton (Jan. and Dec.), 1 Clifton (Feb.), and 1 Oughterside (Dec.).

.....

Re Measles and Whooping Cough (which became notifiable as from 1st November, 1939).—Measles affected the great majority of parishes more or less—Dearham being more so, Broughton Moor next and Seaton to a lesser extent; notifications numbered 194. Whooping Cough affected several parishes only, Oughterside having the highest number of notifications (8).

The case rates of Measles and Whooping Cough (as per notifications) were, respectively 10.07 and .67 per 1000 of the population, as compared with 7.46 and 1.73 for all England and Wales.

One death from Measles in Winscales Parish, but none from Whooping Cough occurred, the death rate being therefore, respectively, .05 and nil, as compared with 0.01 and 0.02 in England and Wales.

.....

Hospital accommodation as provided by the West Cumberland Joint Hospital Board for infectious diseases remained as in the preceding year.

NOTE ON THE CLOSURE OF BROUGHTON MOOR ISOLATION HOSPITAL, 1942.

This Hospital was provided as 'temporary' by this Council in 1904. It was closed at the end of 1942, having been taken over on 1st April, 1940 by the West Cumberland Joint Hospital Board, who, on formation for the West Cumberland area about the same time took over Ellerbeck Infections Diseases Hospital of the Workington Corporation and Galemire Infections Diseases Hospital of the Ennerdale Rural District Council. During its whole existence it was given over almost entirely to the isolation and treatment of Scarlet Fever—only in the last three months of 1918 were there cases of another disease admitted, to the exclusion of Scarlet Fever, viz., five of Typhoid Fever (one of which died).

Constructed of corrugated iron and wood-lined the Hospital premises—in a compound of about $1\frac{3}{4}$ acres—comprised two small wards, two small staff bedrooms, kitchen, etc., in one building and laundry, ambulance shed, mortuary, etc. in another. (At the time of writing, i.e., August, 1943, the buildings and land were sold by public auction for £400, the purchaser, apparently, intending to convert the main building into a dwelling-house).

The Hospital served a useful purpose in its day, providing accommodation and treatment for a total of 1,420 cases of Scarlet Fever of which 11 died (1 in 1905, 4 in 1910, 1 each in 1912, 1915, 1916, 1919, and 2 in 1923). One patient in 1905 was confined in Hospital, a healthy baby being born.

In all there were 56,925 Hospital days.

The Council were fortunate in having practically from the commencement the services as Matron of Miss M. Kerr, who retired on closure of the hospital, thus completing approximately 38 years of very faithful service and almost entirely single-handed—her staff consisting of one maid and an occasional 'daily help'; only very rarely was an extra nurse employed temporarily. (In Dec., 1918, a temporary nurse developed Influenza, and died soon after starting duties).

The Council's present Medical Officer of Health was Medical Superintendent since appointment in 1920.

.....

SCHOOL CLOSURES.

During 1942 only three public elementary schools in the Cockermouth Rural District were closed for a period as follows:—Legburthwaite on account of Mumps and Chickenpox 23rd Feb—6th March; Isel, for Mumps, 23rd Feb.—6th March; and Embleton for Measles, 17th March—2nd April.

The following table shows the incidence of Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, and Typhoid Fever in the various parishes:—

1942	Parish.	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever.
	Above Derwent	—	—	—
	Allerby and Oughterside	—	2	—
	Bassenthwaite	—	—	—
	Bewaldeth, &c.	—	—	—
	Blinderake, incl. Isel Old Park and Sunderland	—	—	—
	Bothel and Threapland	—	—	—
	Bridekirk (incl. Dovenby and Tallantire) —	—	—	—
	Gt. and Lt. Broughton	1	—	—
	Broughton Moor	—	1	—
	Blindbothel incl. Mosser & Whinfell	—	—	—
	Borrowdale	—	—	—
	Brigham	—	2	—
	Buttermere incl. Brackenthwaite	—	—	—
	Camerton, incl. Ribton ..	—	—	1
	Great Clifton	—	—	—
	Little Clifton	1	—	—
	Crosscanonby	—	1	—
	Dearham	—	1	—
	Dean, incl. Eaglesfield &c. ...	—	2	—
	Embleton	—	—	—
	Gilerux	—	—	—
	Greysouthen	—	—	—
	Lorton	—	—	—
	Loweswater and Mockerkirk	—	—	—
	Papecastle	—	1	—
	Plumbland, &c.	—	—	—
	Seaton	—	1	2
	St. John's-in-the-Vale	—	—	—
	Setmurthy	—	—	—
	Underskiddaw, incl. Skiddaw	—	—	1
	Winscales	—	—	—
	Wythop	—	—	—
	Totals.. ...	2	16	3

Summary supplied by the Sanitary Inspector to the Medical Officer of Health, in pursuance of Article xix of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926.

Sanitary Inspectors' Summary for the year ending December 31st, 1942

NUISANCES:—

Complaints received	71
Nuisances observed	152
Nuisances abated	56
Nuisances unabated or work in hand	96
Sanitary Conveniences repaired	11
Drains tested	19
New drains laid	18
New gully traps fixed	30
New chambers constructed	16
Septic tanks and filters constructed (private) ...	4
New water closets fixed	12
Houses disinfested	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:—

Visits to infectious cases	27
Patients removed to Isolation Hospital	24
Houses disinfested	32

WATER SUPPLIES:—

Houses visited with special reference to water supplies	24
House provided with supplies from new public mains	122
Old connections and service pipes renewed	23
Houses provided with new supplies (private)	1
Samples of water taken for analysis (both satisfactory) ...	2

HOUSING:—

Houses inspected under the Housing Acts	19
Number of inspections made	37
Houses recorded under Consolidation Regulations	0
Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. ...	2
Representations made	2
Undertakings given by owners	2
Houses (not including the above) with structural or other defects	17
Houses, defects remedied	4
Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	0
Cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	7
Houses inspected under Public Health Acts	44
No. of Visits made under the Public Health Acts	101
Number of houses with defects	44
„ „ repaired	15

CAMPING:—

Licences issued under P.H.A. 1936 (Section 269), Camping Sites 3. Individual Moveable Dwellings 1	4
Visits of Inspection	12

SEWERING :—

Inspections (including interviews with owners of properties) regarding the provision of new sanitary arrangements and drainage connexions	58
Private drains connected to public sewers	24
Privies converted to water carriage system	8
New water closets built	8
New gully traps fixed	17
New chambers constructed	9

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS :—

On the Register at the end of the year (Producers and Wholesalers 407 Producers and Retailers 79 Retail Purveyors 6, Producers and Butter-makers 110)	602
Visits of inspection	1306
Number of registered premises (including 3 new cowsheds) structurally improved	15
Milk Cooler Houses constructed	32
Samples of Milk taken for Bacteriological Analysis (see table page 18)	223
(77 were unsatisfactory as to cleanliness).	

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION :—

Number of slaughter-houses on the Register—	
Now used as Meat Stores.....	15
Number of licensed Slaughtermen	26
Inspections made (including assistance at Maryport Abattoir)	271
Condemned in private traders' shops or stores :—	
2 Tins chopped ham — blown or damaged	
2 Tins Salmon	
1 Tin Pork Sausage	
90 lbs. Cheese — decomposing	
17½ lbs. Bacon	

FACTORIES (including Workshops and Bakehouses).

On the Register at the end of the year.....	67
Visits of inspection	83

SHOPS' ACT, 1934 :—

Registered premises	36
Visits of inspection	57

SCAVENGING :—

Foul ashpits reported and cleansed (private)	39
Number of houses from which refuse is removed by Council's contractors	3,889

NOTICES :—

Under the Public Health Acts (Intimatory)	172
Under the Public Health Acts (Statutory)	2
Under the Housing Acts (Intimatory)	35
Under the Housing Acts (Statutory)	7
Under the Milk & Dairies Order, 1926 (Intimatory)	345
Under the Milk & Dairies Order, 1926 (Statutory).....	0

GEORGE NELSON, M.S.I.A.

Senior Sanitary and Housing Inspector.

